



SIGNIFICANCE OF TEACHING LIFE SKILLS AND TRAINING IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION THROUGH CONVENTIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEM - A BRIEF STUDY

Dr. G. Vijaya Lakshmi

Asst. Pro, Department of English, Gayatri Vidya Parishad College for Degree and PG.Courses(A), Visakhapatnam - 530017, Andhra Pradesh, India.

ABSTRACT

Teaching and Learning conventional education should imbibe set of life skills and vocational skills training to develop the learner's personality and innate talents in both personal life and professional careers in the right direction for the harmonious survival in the society.

Good conduct of life skills allows the learners to lead a well mannered and mental well-being life in this competitive society and training in desired vocational skills provide confidence and economic empowerment as a trade in hand gives stable income without facing uncertainty about the future in both personal and professional lives.

The Indian youth needs to be empowered, and it can be done through good education and vocational training. As the learners go through conventional education, it is the right tool through which life skills and training in vocational skills should be imbibed and taught for the overall development of the learners, and to release them from the educational institutions not just with a degree but also with a trade in hand.

Key words: Life Skills –Vocational Education –Economic empowerment – Problem solving– Conventional Education - Assertiveness and Leadership qualities. - Entrepreneurial endeavors - work-based learning - confidence and empowerment.

INTRODUCTION:

Education is a tool which instructs the learners to acquire knowledge, necessary to develop the art of living in the desired course of direction both personally and professionally. Through education learners develop a perspective of looking at life creatively with meaning and set of goals to achieve, depending on their aspirations. Hence education should not be only about conventional way of teaching and learning the prescribed syllabus, but educating the learners in life skills and training in vocational skills to pave way for their conforming social living and economic empowerment.

Learners invest prime part of their age in the learning institutions, say it schools, colleges or universities, hence along with the approved syllabus the learners must be instructed in life skills and trained in vocational skills as the learners mind could be tuned well at this learning stage because their whole focus would be only on completing the learning process through educational institutions.

Objectives of the study: My aim is to study the benefits of teaching various life skills and significance of training in vocational education through conventional education, preparing the learners in the basic important societal skills and survival skills by evoking the learners' innate talents towards workmanship and entrepreneurial endeavors, right from their schooling level assures the learners with a harmonious and stress free life.

Life Skills teaching and Learning through conventional education is about promoting and adopting positive behavior, mental well-being and competences that enables the learners to deal situations in life effectively with thorough problem solving skills and assimilate life in this highly competitive world in a pragmatic manner.

SIGNIFICANCE OF VARIOUS LIFE-SKILLS:

“Education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man”

- Swami Vivekananda

The following Life- skills should be imparted through conventional teaching and learning process for a congenial and well-balanced living.

- Communicative and Interpersonal Skills
- Decision- Making and Problem Solving Skills
- Realization through Acknowledgment
- Flexible Attitude
- Assertiveness and Leadership qualities

Should be imparted through conventional teaching and learning process for a congenial and well-balanced living.

1. Communicative and Interpersonal Skills:

Socializing in an admissible manner is all about efficient communicative skills both verbal and non-verbal along with Interpersonal Skills like positive behavior, right attitude, reasoning, responding, persurance and body language. These important life skills must be included and taught to the learners through conventional education learning process.

2. Decision –Making and Problem-Solving Skills:

Life is full of challenges and unexpected situations, hence learners must be trained hands on experiences in critical thinking and problem –solving skills to amicably come out of such situations successfully. In conventional class-room teaching, the facilitators must create challenges and allow the learners to learn to deal with such given challenges with quick thinking and reasoning. This process will prepare the learners to resolve crises on their own without panicking and formulate them for life after the learning process.

3. Realization through Acknowledgment:

Educating the learners about the life skill of realizing and acknowledging their own strengths and weaknesses through conventional education teaching-learning process enables the learners to enhance their strengths and work on their weaknesses. Once this area is translucent, the learners would perceive with caution and be successful in their endeavors.

4. Flexible Attitude:

It is a quality that allows the learners to adopt with the changes in the surroundings, situations and unexpected events that take place in life experiences. Flexible attitude is all about how the learners learn to adjust their outlook and opinions in a novel and innovative way to deal with the obstacles effectively. As this trait is very essential for a stress free life, and should be given due importance teaching it through conventional education.

5. Assertiveness and Leadership Qualities:

Learners being assertive and exhibit leadership qualities completes them as successful achievers, these traits teaches the learners to stand up for their personal rights, and be strong to lead way for others in the righteous manner. Assertiveness trains the learners to be good communicators and listeners which allow them to pursue others to agree with them in a convincing way without becoming aggressive. Leadership qualities build confidence, team work, and problem –solving skills in the learners. Hence these attributes must be incorporated in the conventional education process.

Training in Vocational Education:

According to MHRD Annual Report 2002-2003, India Year Book 2008, Man-power Profile-percentage of schools providing training in vocational education, formally throughout India in some major states are as mentioned below:

Andhra Pradesh—9.82/18.0

Oissa—3.40/18.0

Bihar—3.69/18.0

Kerala---5.34/18.0

Assam—3.31/18.0

Hariyana—2.50/18.0

According to 12th Five-Year Plan 2012-2017, it was estimated that 5% of the Indian workforce is in the age group of 19-24 received formal vocational education. The above statistics shows how less significance is given and achieved towards training in vocational education.

The National Policy on Education, 2020 reimaged training in vocational education through conventional education learning process by at least 50% through schools and high –schools teaching-learning process, is a very good move by the government to enhance working skills in the learners from school level onwards.

Training in vocational education along with conventional education system is all about work-based learning with a conventional learning certificate. Vocational education focuses on practical applications of skills learned and provides a link between conventional education learning and the working world. Learners exposed to training in vocational education at an early stage of their conventional learning would equip them with skills required to earn immediately after their studies. Bookish knowledge and with an academic certificate in hand may not promise the learners with a steady income and economic empowerment. Hence training in vocational education in the areas like business, health services, and agricultural science will be beneficial to the aspiring learners.

After researching a few private conventional educational intuitions, it is noticed that not all schools and high schools are providing training in life skills and vocational education, along with the prescribed syllabus. Learners must be instructed in life skills and vocational education to approach life with confidence and empowerment in all aspects.

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